

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 - 20 (Cancelled):

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): In an injection molding method for producing a molding comprising the steps of:

~~by using~~ providing a mold assembly having a pair of molds including a mold surface forming a cavity having a preselected volume, at least one transfer surface for transferring a mirror surface formed by said mold surfaces to said molding, at least one non-transfer surface, and a gate for filling said cavity with a molten material by injection; [, and by]

injecting said molten material into said cavity via said gate and then cooling said molten material; ~~; said mold surface is formed with, outside of said transfer surface,~~

providing at least one vent hole having a preselected opening area and at least one bore communicated to said vent hole in said at least one non-transfer surface for applying a preselected air pressure to said molding material; [,] and

continuously applying the air pressure ~~is continuously generated~~ via said vent hole even after a pressure of said molding material in said cavity has dropped to zero thereby causing said molten material to sink away from said vent hole; and

providing a at least one step in said at least one non-transfer surface between said vent hole and said at least one transfer surface to prevent sinking of the molten material from proceeding from said at least one non-transfer surface to said at least one transfer surface.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the step of applying an air pressure comprises generating either a pressure difference or an air

pressure ~~is generated~~ between said transfer surface and a vent hole portion of [said] the molding facing said vent hole.

Claim 23 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the air pressure is higher than an atmospheric pressure (about 0.1 MPa) inclusive, but lower than 2 MPa inclusive.

Claims 24-34 (Cancelled)

Claim 35 (New): A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein said at least one transfer surface comprises a plurality of transfer surfaces and said at least one step comprises a plurality steps; and

providing one of said plurality of steps on one side of said vent hole between said vent hole and one of said plurality of transfer surfaces and providing another of said plurality of steps on the opposite side of said vent hole between said vent hole and another of said plurality of transfer surfaces.

Claim 36 (New): A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the step of providing at least one step comprises providing a step in said at least one non-transfer surface completely surrounding said vent hole between said vent hole and said at least one transfer surface.

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 2, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 5C, 6, 7A, 7B, 8, 9A, 9B, 10A, 10B, 11A, 11B, 12A, 12B, 13A, 13B, 14A, 14B, 15, 16A, 16B, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23A, 23B, 23C, 24A, 24B, 25A, 25B, 26, 27A, 27B, 27C, 27D, 28A, 28B, 28C, 28D, 29, 30A, 30B, 31, 32A, 32B, 32C, 33A, 33B, 34A, 34B, 34C, and 35.

Attachment: 22 Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

22 Replacement Sheets